

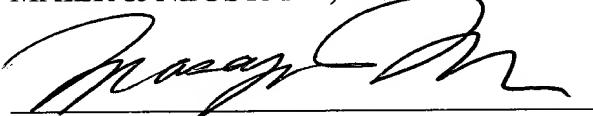
Application No. 09/741,824  
Reply to Office Action of June 18, 2003

In order to overcome the provisional double patenting rejection, a corresponding amendment has been filed with co-pending application No. 10/067,934, which cancels Claims 1-17, 23-29 and 43-46 and amends Claims 18-21, 30, 31, 34, 35, 37 and 41 therein.

Consequently, in light of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that the invention defined by Claims 1-45 is patentable. The present application is therefore believed to be in condition for formal allowance, and an early and favorable reconsideration of this application is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Bradley D. Lytle  
Registration No. 40,073  
Masayasu Mori  
Registration No. 47,301  
Attorneys of Record

Customer Number

**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 08/03)  
BDL/MM:jm